

**ABSTRACT**

The invention provides a method for the diagnosis of dementia and transmissible spongiform encephalopathies in a subject by detecting the levels of glycoproteins that bind wheat germ agglutinin. The invention also provides a method for diagnosis of dementia and

5 transmissible spongiform encephalopathies in a subject by comparing the levels of glycoproteins that bind wheat germ agglutinin with the glycosylation patterns of biomarkers, acetylcholinesterase and butyrylcholinesterase.